GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:10
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2015
Hospitality Development and Promotion Board
Nishad Shri Ajay

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of existing mechanism for the promotion and development of tourism industry, including hotel projects;
(b) whether the Government has approved the setting up of Hospitality Development & Promotion Board for hotel projects and development of tourism in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the details of the tasks assigned to the Board?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

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STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.â€ *10 ANSWERED ON 30.11.2015 REGARDING HOSPITALITY DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION BOARD.

The existing mechanism for the promotion and development of tourism industry, including hotel projects, is as under:-

(I): Development of Tourism is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, the Ministry of Tourism, provides financial assistance to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for tourism projects, which are prioritized in consultation with them and funds are released subject to submission of utilization certificates for funds released earlier, adherence to the scheme guidelines, inter − se − priority and availability of funds under the relevant scheme. The Ministry of Tourism has recently launched the following two new schemes:

i. Swadesh Darshan − Integrated Development of Theme− Based Tourist Circuits.
ii. National Mission of Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive (PRASAD).

(II): Promotional activities are undertaken in important and potential tourist generation markets overseas through the India Tourism Offices abroad with the objective of showcasing India's tourism potential and rich cultural heritage. These promotional activities include participation in travel fairs and exhibitions; organizing road shows, know India Seminars and work shops; organizing and supporting Indian food and cultural festivals, publication of brochures, offering joint advertising and brochure support; and inviting media personalities, tour operators and opinion makers to visit the country under the Hospitality Programme of this Ministry. Financial support is also extended under the Marketing Development Assistance Scheme (MDA) to approved tourism service providers for undertaking tourism promotional activities overseas.

(III): The Ministry of Tourism approve hotel projects at project level and classify the operational hotels for 1 Star to 5 Star Deluxe Category and Heritage Category. With a view to bring in more transparency and simplifying the procedure in submission of application, Ministry of Tourism has introduced digitization of application for classification/re-classification/project approval of hotels. The software (http://hotelcloud.nic.in) for online submission of application has been made operational.

(b) & (c): Yes, Madam. The Government has notified the creation of a "Hospitality Development and Promotion Board" (HDPB) for approval and facilitation of hotel projects. The main objective of HDPB is to facilitate clearances of hotel projects in a time bound manner and also provide policy advice for development of hospitality sector. The functions of the HDPB are as under:

i. To be a single point for receiving applications for various clearances.
ii. To fast track approval/clearance of hotel project proposals in a time bound manner.
iii. To review the hotel project policies and to communicate with other agencies such as the Administrative Ministries/Departments/Agencies in order to set up guidelines that are transparent and which encourage the growth of hotel/hospitality infrastructure in the country.
iv. To interact with Government, non-Government and Industry bodies in order to increase the hotel/hospitality infrastructure in the country.

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